

II. Amendment To The Claims

Applicant amends claims 46, 57–58, 64 and 67 and cancels claims 48–56, 59–60 and 62, as set forth below in a complete listing of all of the claims in the Application with the status of each claim noted parenthetically, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

Listing of the Claims

Claims 1 – 45. (canceled)

Claim 46. (currently amended) An antimicrobial composition consisting essentially of:

a mixture free of benzyl alcohol and ~~consisting essentially of at least one generally recognized as safe flavoring agent selected~~ containing from 0.1% to 90% by weight of a polyphenol selected from the group consisting of tannins and tannic acid polyphenol compounds and 0.1% to 30% by weight of lactic acid, a physiologically acceptable salt thereof or hydrophilic acetate or hydrophilic aldehyde; the mixture containing no other generally recognized as safe flavored alcohols.

Claims 47–56. (canceled)

Claim 57. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 46, ~~which contains from 0.01 to 99% by weight of~~ wherein the polyphenol compounds is tannins.

Claim 58. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 46,
~~which contains from 0.1% to 90% by weight, of wherein the polyphenol~~
compounds is tannic acid.

Claims 59–60. (canceled)

Claim 61. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 46,
wherein said composition consists of generally recognized as safe flavoring
agents.

Claim 62. (canceled)

Claim 63. (previously presented) A microbially perishable product
containing the antimicrobial composition of claim 46.

Claim 64. (currently amended) An antimicrobial composition consisting
essentially of:

a mixture free of benzyl alcohol and ~~consisting~~
~~essentially of at least one generally recognized~~
~~as safe flavoring agent selected from~~
~~polyphenol compounds~~ containing 0.1% to 90%
by weight of a polyphenol selected from the
group consisting of tannins and tannic acid, and
~~comprising 0.1% to 30% by weight of~~ lactic acid,
and at least one essential oil selected from the
group consisting of oils or extracts having a
high content of phenols: organum, thyme,
rosemary, orange, fennel, camphor, mandarin,
anise, cascarilla, estragon and pimento, the
mixture containing no other generally
recognized as safe flavored alcohols

Claim 65. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 64, wherein said at least one essential oil is anise.

Claim 66. (previously presented) A microbially perishable product containing the antimicrobial composition of claim 64.

Claim 67. (currently amended) An antimicrobial composition consisting essentially of:

a mixture free of benzyl alcohol and ~~consisting essentially of at least one generally recognized as safe flavoring agent selected from polyphenol compounds~~ containing 0.1% to 90% by weight of a polyphenol selected from the group consisting of tannins and tannic acid, and ~~comprising 0.1% to 30% by weight of~~ lactic acid and at least one phenol compound selected from the group consisting of thymol, methyleugenol, acetyeugenol, safrol, eugenol, isoeugenol, anethole, phenol, methylchavicol (estragol; 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-propene), carvacrol, α -bisabolol, farnesol, anisole (methoxybenzene), and propenylguaethol (5-propenyl-2-ethoxyphenol), the mixture containing no other generally recognized as safe flavored alcohols.

Claim 68. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 67, wherein said at least one phenol compound is selected from the group consisting of thymol, methyleugenol, estragol, carvacrol, α -bisabolol, farnesol, anisole and propenylguaethol.

Claim 69. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 68, wherein said at least one phenol compound is selected from the group consisting of thymol, eugenol, carvacrol, anethole, phenol and anisole.

Claim 70. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 69, wherein said at least one phenol compound is thymol.